

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 19

Expressing the sense of the Congress that State and local governments should be supported for taking actions to discourage illegal immigration and that legislation should be enacted to ease the burden on State and local governments for taking such actions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that State and local governments should be supported for taking actions to discourage illegal immigration and that legislation should be enacted to ease the burden on State and local governments for taking such actions.

Whereas the Federal Government has failed to take adequate measures to curb illegal immigration;

Whereas the failure by the Federal Government to curb illegal immigration has placed, and continues to place, a substantial burden on State and local government agencies to address illegal immigration;

Whereas many State and local governments have actively worked to discourage illegal immigration and to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws of the United States;

Whereas in 2008, 1,305 immigration-related bills were introduced and 205 were enacted by State legislatures throughout the country, an increase of over 300 percent of the bills introduced and 400 percent of the bills enacted since 2005;

Whereas such actions and assistance have come at great expense to State and local governments;

Whereas numerous States governments, including those in Arizona, California, Missouri, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia, have considered legislation or placed initiatives and referendums on the ballot to enhance the ability of State and local agencies to discourage illegal immigration and to ease the burden placed on the States;

Whereas numerous local governments, including those in Farmers Branch, Texas, Hazelton, Pennsylvania, Nashville, Tennessee, Valley Park, Missouri, Escondido, California, Prince William County, Virginia, and Suffolk County, New York, have introduced ordinances to enhance the ability of local governments to discourage illegal immigration and to ease the burden placed on local governments; and

Whereas State and local governments continue to be confronted with the issue of illegal immigration without the prospect of immediate relief from the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) State and local governments should be sup-
2 ported for taking actions to discourage illegal immi-
3 gration;

4 (2) current laws governing enforcement of the
5 immigration laws of the United States should be en-
6 forced to the highest extent of the law; and

7 (3) legislation to enhance border security and
8 the enforcement of immigration laws should be
9 passed quickly in order to ease the burden on State
10 and local governments.

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